

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated:

1. (currently amended) A storage device in which file data is written on a recording medium, said file data being divided into multiple blocks for recording on said recording medium, said storage device comprising:

an additional data storing section for storing additional data to be recorded on said recording medium in association with said file data to be written, said file data being unincorporated with said additional data;

~~a recording position determining section for determining recording positions on said recording medium based on said additional data associated with a respective block from said multiple blocks, each said recording position being a block gap away from a previously written block, said block gap having a physical length defined by said additional data; and~~

~~— a block writing section for writing the respective blocks to the recording positions on said recording medium determined by said recording position determining section, wherein an error is detected if a length of said block gap, for a particular block, does not comport with said additional data for said particular block~~

an error detecting section for detecting a write error on said recording medium and acquiring error information about said write error;

a recording position determining section for:

defining a block gap on said recording medium, said block gap having a

length determined by said error information about said write error, and

determining a recording position on said recording medium for a

subsequent write that is said block gap away from a last error free write operation;

and

a block writing section for writing a subsequent block of data to said recording position on said recording medium, wherein said length of said block gap provides both a no-write zone for subsequent writes as well as a description of said write error.

2. (original) The storage device according to Claim 1, wherein said recording medium is a magnetic tape.

3. (original) The storage device according to Claim 1, wherein said additional data is electronic watermarking data for identifying said file data to be written, and said storage device further comprises:

a block reading section for reading said multiple blocks from said recording medium;

a recording position acquiring section for acquiring recording positions on said recording medium where said multiple blocks are respectively recorded; and

a block readout inhibiting section for inhibiting said multiple blocks from being read by said block reading section when said reading positions acquired by said recording position acquiring section do not correspond to said electronic watermarking data to be recorded in association with said data to be written.

4. (original) The storage device according to Claim 3,

wherein said block reading section sequentially reads said multiple blocks;

said recording position acquiring section sequentially acquires the recording positions of said multiple blocks read by said block reading section; and

said block readout inhibiting section inhibits one block and subsequent blocks in said multiple blocks from being read when the recording position of said one block acquired by said recording position acquiring section does not correspond to said electronic watermarking data recorded in association with said file data to be written.

5. (original) The storage device according to Claim 3,

wherein said recording position acquiring section acquires the recording positions corresponding to said multiple blocks when said recording medium is mounted on said storage device; and

said block readout inhibiting section inhibits said multiple blocks from being read by said block reading section when said recording positions do not correspond to said electronic watermarking data recorded in association with said file data to be written.

6. (original) The storage device according to Claim 1,

wherein said block writing section, when it is impossible to write one block to a recording position on said recording medium where said one block should be written, writes said

one block as well as recording position change information indicating that the recording position of said one block has been changed to another recording position different from the recording position where said one block should have been written.

7-8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) A computer program product, residing on a computer usable medium, for recording file data, said file data being divided into multiple blocks and recorded on a recording medium, said computer program product comprising:

program code for storing additional data to be recorded on said recording medium in association with said file data to be written, said file data being unincorporated with said additional data;

~~program code for determining recording positions on said recording medium based on said additional data associated with a respective block of said multiple blocks, each said recording position being a block gap away from a previously written block, said block gap having a physical length defined by said additional data; and~~

~~program code for writing the respective blocks to the recording positions on said recording medium determined by said recording position determining section, wherein an error is detected if a length of said block gap, for a particular block, does not comport with said additional data for said particular block~~

program code for detecting a write error on said recording medium and acquiring error information about said write error;

program code for defining a block gap on said recording medium, said block gap having a length determined by said error information about said write error;

program code for determining a recording position on said recording medium for a subsequent write that is said block gap away from a last error free write operation;

program code for writing a subsequent block of data to said recording position on said recording medium, wherein said length of said block gap provides both a no-write zone for subsequent writes as well as a description of said write error.

10. (currently amended) A method for controlling a storage device in which data to be written is divided into multiple blocks and recorded on a recording medium, said method comprising:

an additional data storing step of storing additional data to be recorded on said recording medium in association with [[said]] primary data to be written to a storage device, wherein said additional data is an electronic watermarking data that includes a device identification number for said storage device on which said primary data is written;

a recording position determining step of determining recording positions on said recording medium based on said additional data to which the blocks produced by dividing said data to be written are respectively written; and

a block writing step of writing the respective blocks to the recording positions on said recording medium determined by said recording position determining step.

11. (cancelled)

12. (new) The method of claim 10, wherein said electronic watermarking data further comprises:

a date and time of a writing of said primary data into said storage device;

an identification information for said primary data; and

a password for releasing a read restriction on said primary data.

13. (new) The method of claim 10, wherein said electronic watermarking data further comprises:

information indicating how many times said primary data has been copied in the past.

14. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

storing said electronic watermarking data in an additional data storing memory in said storage device;

comparing said electronic watermarking data stored in said storage device with said electronic watermarking data recorded on said recording medium; and

inhibiting a reading of said primary data if said electronic watermarking data stored in said storage device does not match said electronic watermarking data recorded on said recording medium.

15. (new) A method comprising:

dividing data to be written to a recording medium into multiple blocks;
determining specified recording positions on the recording medium where respective blocks of data, from the multiple blocks, are to be written;
writing said respective blocks of data to the specified recording positions; and
embedding an electronic watermark data in the recording medium, wherein, if said data is copied onto another medium, said electronic watermark data is lost on the another medium, wherein the another medium is determined to contain an illegal copy of the data.

16. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said electronic watermarking data further comprises:

a date and time of a writing of said primary data into said storage device;
an identification information for said primary data; and
a password for releasing a read restriction on said primary data.

17. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said electronic watermarking data further comprises:

information indicating how many times said primary data has been copied in the past.